Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee (SSTMD AC) Meeting Summary November 8, 2007

- 1. Introductions: Members and guests introduced themselves. Attendance sheet attached.
- 2. Review of minutes: Minutes approval vote delayed, pending arrival of a quorum.
- **3. Chair's Comments: Chair Jim Polk** noted the absence of a quorum and asked that the meeting begin with TMD Updates until more members arrived.
- **4. Purple Line Letter and Discussion: Jim Polk** has been drafting the position paper regarding the Purple Line since **Courtney Deines-Jones** left the committee. An outline is complete. There is a list of options that have been dropped, and use of tunnels is still being evaluated. Mr. Polk believes that the committee should support the Purple Line; if it is planned right, traffic will be greatly reduced and use of public transportation will be promoted. There is a website with the issues being considered: www.purplelinemd.com.

The group discussed some options and concerns, including:

- Only building the Purple Line from Bethesda to Silver Spring rather than College Park.
- Building in segments, starting with the route between Bethesda and Silver Spring.
- Before federal funding can be secured, all environmental studies and a final plan would need to be established.
- Even after all studies are completed, there is a possibility that the Feds will not fund the project.

Mr. Polk reiterated that he would like input from all group members for a letter he is drafting.

- **5. FY09 Budget:** Sande Brecher stated that once the budget is in process, no one who works for the County is permitted to discuss any details. The rationale for this is that ultimately it is the County Executive who has the final say on all budget matters, so until he officially signs off, no potential provisions or proposal details can be discussed. However, much of what the group previously discussed has been submitted. There are discussions about increasing staffing to handle increased emphasis on traffic mitigation with developers. Mr. Polk would like to have the group review the old discussions, and reprioritize them. January is usually the time to communicate budget priorities to the County. Ms. Brecher suggested as part of their deliberations the committee consider whether to support car sharing incentives; she said this could be a useful adjunct to current programs. There have been indications of growing interest in car sharing and its promotion in both the Executive branch and County Council.
- **2. Revisited upon reaching a quorum:** Minutes from September 20, 2007 were approved, and minutes from October 11, 2007 were approved with one addition.
- **6. Updates TMD/DPWT/Police/Other County Updates: Sgt Tom Harmon** briefed members on several traffic initiatives and pedestrian safety initiatives during October and November. Police have found that targeting major arterials for enforcement, such as Colesville Road, has a favorable impact at intersections. There were 475 citations issued on Colesville in October; Georgia Avenue will be the focus during the month of November. Police are planning to place a "High Accident Area" variable message sign at the Colesville/Fairland interchange. Currently, the sign is located on New Hampshire Avenue. There are stealth pads installed on both the eastbound and westbound lanes of Dale Drive. There will be permanent speed cameras

installed on Wayne, both directions. The Thanksgiving Parade is scheduled for November 17th; expect traffic to be disrupted.

Jim Carlson included notices in the meeting packet about Metro's scheduled rate changes. Ride On by policy will match Metro's fare increase in order to maintain uniformity. **Sande Brecher** reminded the group that paper transfers for buses will be eliminated within the year. There is also talk of eliminating tokens. The group entertained some ideas about providing SmarTrip cards for free, and ability to use them in County parking garages. **Mr. Polk** requested that Ms. Brecher and Mr. Carlson draft that motion for the group.

Mel Tull invited the group to an event for the holidays, along with several other local committees, sponsored by the Citizens' Advisory Board. It will be held December 5, with more information to follow.

The Chamber of Commerce is holding its Annual Taste of Silver Spring in the Discovery Building, November 15, 2007.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting: December 13, 2007

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Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee (SSTMD AC) Attendance Sheet November 8, 2007

Voting Members (12)			
Name	Affiliation	Present	Absent
Chamber Members (3)			
Ali Mahmood	Chevy Chase Bank		X
James S. Polk, Chairman	Technology Service Corporation	X	
Tom Collins	Atlantech Online	X	
Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)			
Edward Furgol	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Charles Segerman, Vice Chairman	North & West Sector Plan Area	X	
Andy Wexler	CBD Resident	X	
TMD Employers less than 50 employees (3)			
Julian Leidman	Bonanza Coin	X	
Suvita Melehy	Melehy & Associates		X
Cathy Wilde	Solid Waste Assoc of North America		X
TMD Employers with 50 or more employees (3)			
Vacant Position			
Robin Goudy	Social & Scientific Systems		X
Geoffrey Kreig	Merchant Link		X
Non-Voting Members (4)			
Sandra Brecher, DPWT Transit Services	DPWT Director or Designee	X	
Chuck Kines	M-NCPPC		X
Sergeant Thomas Harmon	Montgomery County Police	X	
Staff			
Terrie O'Steen	DPWT, Commuter Services		X
David Kantor	DPWT, Commuter Services		X
Jim Carlson	DPWT, Commuter Services	X	
Guests			
Miriam Jaffe for Geoffrey Krieg	Merchant Link	X	
Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Mel Tull	Silver Spring Regional Services Center	X	